

Claim 1 (currently amended): A system for providing real-time cluster configuration data within a clustered computer network comprising a plurality of clusters, comprising:

a primary node in each cluster wherein said primary node includes a primary repository manager and a primary data repository, the primary repository storing a first set of cluster configuration data in the primary data repository;

a secondary node in each cluster wherein said secondary node includes a secondary repository manager and a secondary data repository, the secondary repository manager storing a second set of cluster configuration data in the secondary data repository; and

at least one additional node in each cluster, wherein said additional node runs a repository agent, wherein said repository agent forwards all write/update requests to said primary repository manager, and wherein said additional node includes a client application using the repository agent as an interface to the primary repository manager when accessing the first set of cluster configuration data;

wherein said secondary repository manager cooperates with said primary repository manager to maintain the second set of cluster configuration data at said secondary node consistent with the first set of cluster configuration data maintained at said primary node[.];

wherein the write/update requests are sent only to said primary repository manager;

wherein the write/update requests are written by said primary repository manager and said secondary repository manager in said first and said second set of cluster configuration data, respectively; and

wherein validating of completion of entry of said write/update requests is performed only when information is successfully written by both said primary repository manager and said secondary repository manager.

Claim 11 (currently amended): A method of providing real-time cluster configuration data within a clustered computer network comprising a plurality of clusters, comprising the steps of:

choosing a primary node in each cluster wherein said primary node includes a primary repository manager;

choosing a secondary node in each cluster wherein said secondary node includes a secondary repository manager;

causing said secondary repository manager to cooperate with said primary repository manager to maintain information comprising secondary cluster configuration data at said secondary node consistent with information comprising primary cluster configuration data maintained at said primary node; [[and]]

providing a repository agent for each additional node of each cluster, wherein the repository agent interfaces with the primary repository manager in its cluster to access the primary cluster configuration data[[.]] ;

sending write/update information from a client only to said primary repository manager;

causing said write/update information to be written by said primary repository manager and said secondary repository manager in said primary and secondary cluster configuration data, respectively; and

validating completion of the entry of said write/update information only when the information successfully is written in both said primary repository manager and said secondary repository manager.

Claim 12 (canceled)

Claim 13 (canceled)

Claim 14 (currently amended): A computer program product comprising a computer useable medium having computer readable code embodied therein for providing real-time cluster configuration data within a clustered computer network comprising a plurality of clusters, the computer program product adapted when run on a computer to effect steps including:

choosing a primary node in each cluster wherein said primary node includes a primary repository manager;

choosing a secondary node in each cluster wherein said secondary node includes a secondary repository manager;

causing said secondary repository manager to cooperate with said primary repository manager to maintain information comprising secondary cluster configuration data at said secondary node consistent with information comprising primary cluster configuration data maintained at said primary node; [[and]]

providing a repository agent for each additional node of each cluster, wherein the repository agent interfaces with the primary repository manager in its cluster to access the primary cluster configuration data[[.]] ;

sending write/update information from a client only to said primary repository manager;

causing said write/update information to be written by said primary repository manager and said secondary repository manager in said primary and secondary cluster configuration data, respectively; and

validating completion of the entry of said write/update information only when the information successfully is written in both said primary repository manager and said secondary repository manager.

Claims 15-16 (canceled)